



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MARY C. WICKHAM
County Counsel

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TELEPHONE
(213) 974-1609
FACSIMILE
(213) 626-2105
TDD
(213) 633-0901
E-MAIL
rgranbo@counsel.lacounty.gov

TO: LORI GLASGOW
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation *1249*

FROM: ROGER H. GRANBO
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Lisa Castillo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
United States District Court Case No. 2:14-CV-07702

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

RHG:scr

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Lisa Castillo, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., United States District Court Case No. 2:14-CV-07702 in the amount of \$999,999 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Children and Family Service's budget.

This lawsuit concerns allegations of federal civil rights violations and unlawful detention of Plaintiff's two minor children by the Department of Children and Family Services.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Lisa Castillo, et al. vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	14-CV-07702
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	October 4, 2012
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 999,999
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Vincent W. Davis
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Lauren Black Principal Deputy County Counsel Avi Burkwitz, Esquire Peterson Bradford Burkwitz LLP
NATURE OF CASE	This is a warrant case in which Plaintiff alleges her kids were detained without a warrant and she was coerced into signing off on a safety plan, and the kids continued to be detained for six months thereafter.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 153,500
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 28,000



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	October 4, 2012
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	The plaintiff alleges her civil rights were violated when the Department placed her children as the result of her three-month old being found unresponsive after being left lying on his side, supported by a blanket on an adult bed.

1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

Plaintiff alleged that DCFS removed her children and interfered with familial relations when her children were removed as the result of her three-month old son being found unresponsive.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

The Department had relevant policies and procedures in effect at the time of the incident and continues to ensure that its protocols complement the current state of the law and assist its workforce to provide appropriate and legally-sufficient child welfare services.

County of Los Angeles
Summary Corrective Action Plan

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- ✓ The corrective actions address department-wide system issues
The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Diane Iglesias, Senior Deputy Director

Signature:

Diane Iglesias

Date:

8/23/16

Name: (Department Head)

PHILIP L. BROWNING, DIRECTOR

Signature:

Philip L. Browning

Date:

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

☐ Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.

☒ No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)

Destiny Carter

Signature:

Destiny Carter

Date:

8/23/2016